United Nations S/PV.5645

Security Council

Sixty-second year

Provisional

5645th meeting

Friday, 23 March 2007, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Kumalo	(South Africa)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Verbeke
	China	Mr. Li Kexin
	Congo	Mr. Ikouebe
	France	Mr. Lacroix
	Ghana	Nana Effah-Apenteng
	Indonesia	Mr. Kleib
	Italy	Mr. Spatafora
	Panama	Mr. Suescum
	Peru	Mr. Chávez
	Qatar	Mr. Al-Bader
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	Slovakia	Mr. Matulay
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Johnston
	United States of America	Ms. Wolcott Sanders

Agenda

The situation in Afghanistan

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07-27983 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Afghanistan

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representatives of Afghanistan, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Yunus (Afghanistan) took a seat at the Council table.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2007/152). Members of the Council also have before them document S/2007/169, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall now put the draft resolution to the vote.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Belgium, China, Congo, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1746 (2007).

Mr. Spatafora (Italy): My delegation was honoured to coordinate the process that has led to the adoption by consensus of this resolution. I wish to thank all delegations and, above all, you, Mr. President, and your team, for the invaluable contributions that we received from each and every one of them throughout the process.

The vote is all the more rewarding for us since the Council has adopted this resolution as a presidential text showing cohesion and unity on a critical issue at a critical juncture. As our Foreign Minister stated before the Council three days ago (see S/PV.5641), we were convinced that the people of Afghanistan and the women and men of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) needed a strong signal of support.

We believe that this resolution is such a signal. We are not modifying the mandate of UNAMA, of course, but I believe that we are doing something even more important for the Mission. We are offering a new vision, we are giving a new pulse, we are shaping a new framework for action.

The text before us is not business as usual. In fact, it is particularly rich, and it addresses all the priorities for the next months identified by the Secretary-General in his report — promotion of the coherence of the international engagement, outreach, support for regional cooperation, humanitarian coordination, protection of human rights, and monitoring of the situation of civilians in armed conflict.

As an overarching priority, the resolution affirms the crucial importance of the synergies among the different aspects of the international community's engagement in Afghanistan, stressing the need for a comprehensive approach to address the challenges that Afghanistan faces. We hope that such a comprehensive approach will be put into practice in the shortest term and at the highest level through the unique format offered by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB) and under the leadership of the Afghan Government. This is the only way to be in a position one year from now to adopt a resolution with a long list of developments to welcome and no concerns to express.

The President: There are no further speakers on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.